Beginning the *Thirteenth year.*

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS.

March 25. 1677.

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A Preface to March 25. 1677.

I *Have little to ſay for a* Preface *to this my* Twelfth *Volume (which by the Divine Aſſiſtance I now begin:) For that ſo many of the chief Univerſities in Chriſtendom have already formed themſelves into Philoſophical Societies; and have ſo largely contributed their Aydes to advance the* Lord Bacons *Deſign for the Inſtauration of Arts and Sciences, that it is now become above my abilities to direct or propoſe thoſe rare and excellent things, which are ſuggeſted to many worthy Authors by their own happy Genius.*

Many uſeful Inventions are already brought to perfection, and publiſhed; and many more are dextrouſly commenced.

In the Preface to my laſt foregoing Volume, I ſollicited for Natural Hiſtories of Countries: And now I ſee very much done in that kind; and I hear of much more in the hands of many judicious Philoſophers, learned Gentlemen, induſtrious Students, and noble Travellers. And ingenious Travellers are now furniſhed with extraordinary accommodations, that were not known to former Ages; ſuch as Thermometers, Baroſcopes, Hygroſcopes, Microſcopes, Teleſcopes, Micrometers, *exact* Scales *and* Weights, *promptly to weigh Liquors, and, with other circumſtances, to examine the intrinſic value of all Coins and Medals or Metals;* Pendulum Watches, *Inſtruments and Indexes for Magnetical Variations, and Inclinatory Needles, and other helps to come to aſcertain Longitudes; and other Mechanical Contrivances for manifold Uſes. And every branch of Mathematicks, pure and mixt, Arithmetick, Geometry, Aſtronomy, Architecture, all Ingenuous Arts are daily rendred more eaſie and more pregnant.*

Theſe the moſt Intelligent and Induſtrious, being ſome of them in full Bodies aſſociated, well ſetled and devoted for ſolid Truth in all our beſt Academies; and others led by their own Genius and Affairs, to undertake inquiſitive Journeys by Sea and Land; we cannot ſuſpect a Relapſe, nor fail of a perpetual Progreſs in ſound and uſeful knowledge, to the ſatisfaction of all the Ingenuous.

Some Agreſtic Obſervations and Advertiſements, from Dr. John Beale *communicated to the Publiſher.*

IN *Devonſhire* they mingle black Mulberies fully ripe, with a full bodied Cider in the time of grinding or preſſing the Apple, with diſcretion for tincture and reliſh: And there they eſteem it a very wholſom and ſtout wine. Of this Mulbery-cider, ſome notice was given from *Devonſhire* long ſince, as may be ſeen in the *Phil. Tranſact. Vol.* 2. *Numb.* 27. *p.* 503. *Sept.* 1667.

'Tis ſtrange, that in nine or ten years ſince this was publiſhed, the practiſe hath not been ſpread into other Countries, where they abound with ſtrong and winy Cider; many being willing that their Cider ſhould in tincture reſemble Claret, Tent, or Alicant wine.

But it may ſeem, that we do yet retain ſomewhat of our Fathers averſneſs from planting Mulberies, which they ſhewed near the begining of King *James* his Reign, to our great loſs and ſhame.